

Mayor & Board of Health

A Message From Mayor Chris Beutler



Chris Beutler
Mayor of Lincoln

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department began a new chapter this year with a change at the top. Judy Halstead is continuing a tradition of excellent leadership as the new Health Director. The contributions of former Director Bruce Dart over the past decade will continue to be felt for many years, and we wish him well in his new position in Oklahoma. The community is fortunate to have visionary leaders like Judy and Bruce step up to guide an agency that is so important to the health of our community.

This annual report gives you a snapshot of the wide variety of programs and services that help keep this community healthy. I want to thank the employees of the Health Department, the Board of Health and all those who serve on the department's many advisory committees. The entire community benefits from their commitment to improved personal health and a cleaner and more sustainable environment.

Creating a healthier community requires a partnership among local government, the health care industry, business, schools and non-profits. This partnership is strong in Lincoln. The work of the Health Care Safety Net Task force and the creation of the Health Hub are just two examples.

Our Health Department is committed to these partnerships and works every day to live by its motto: "Public Health: Every One, Every Day, Every Where."

A Message From the Board of Health President



Karla Lester, MD
President

In 2010, the Lincoln-Lancaster Board of Health, led by a sub-committee, prepared revised Mission and Vision Statements which were approved by the Board. The Mission of the Board of Health is "To Advocate for the Public's Health in Lincoln and Lancaster County" and "To Advise, Guide and Support the Health Department in Protecting and Promoting the Public's Health" is its vision.

Each Board of Health member is paired with a division of the Health Department. Through that pairing, Board members gain a more in depth understanding of the day to day work of the Health Department. The Board of Health reviews and approves policies including proposed revisions to Lincoln Municipal Code regarding animal licensing requirements, food safety, and appointments to committees. Policies to be reviewed and approved impact how the Health Department performs its work in the community.

The Board of Health has followed closely the outbreak of communicable diseases, such as H1N1 as well as LLCHD's response to these outbreaks and the Department's communication to the public regarding prevention of the spread of disease. In addition, the Board of Health follows legislation affecting the public's health and supports or voices concern over proposed legislation and its possible outcome. I encourage your review of the 2010 Annual Report and am confident you will have as great an appreciation for the work of the Health Department as I do.

2009-2010 Board of Health Members



Heidi Stark, DDS
Vice President



Rodrigo
Cantarero, PhD



Tony Messineo



Lisa Peterson, MD



Ed Schneider, OD



Deb Schorr
County Commissioner



David Smith, DVM



Jayne Snyder, DPT
City Council